

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 FEBRUARY 1983

Israel

The Cabinet decided to postpone its decision on the Kahan inquiry commission's recommendations until a further meeting on 10 February, Jerusalem television announced in a report on the 9 February Cabinet meeting. According to Jerusalem radio, the meeting ended in a "grim" atmosphere with demonstrators outside expressing support for Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, who called on the Cabinet to adopt the commission's recommendations on politicians, but to reject those concerning military officers in order to safeguard IDF morale. Reporting on the meeting, THE JERUSALEM POST said the number of Cabinet members in favor of accepting the Kahan commission's recommendations was "shrinking." The Likud ministers were gratified to hear a leading National Religious Party (NRP) minister pledge that the NRP will not desert the government and enter a coalition with the Labor Alignment, the paper said. However, the NRP minister subsequently reaffirmed his party's commitment to implementing the commission's recommendations and its opposition to early elections, according to remarks broadcast by IDF radio. Jerusalem television reported earlier that Prime Minister Menahem Begin will be "very happy" if the NRP and other coalition partners agree to advancing the date for the Knesset elections. Begin has already decided what course of action to adopt, the television report stated, citing sources close to the prime minister. Defense Minister Sharon, meanwhile, indicated that he will not accept the post of minister without portfolio in a new government, Jerusalem radio noted.

In a Jerusalem television interview, Labor Party Chairman Shimon Peres called for the immediate implementation of the Kahan commission's recommendations just as the Agranat report was implemented in 1974.

Lebanon

Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. Talks — Negotiations resumed at Qiryat Shemona on 10 February, Jerusalem radio reported. Announcing that the latest U.S. proposals may be discussed at the talks, Lebanese Information Ministry dispatches broadcast by Beirut radio said the Lebanese delegation opened the talks with a call for drafting a timetable on troop withdrawals. Earlier, U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib gave Israeli Prime Minister Begin a proposal from President Ronald Reagan concerning a withdrawal timetable, Jerusalem television noted. Habib asked Begin to accelerate the negotiations and give priority to the evacuation of foreign forces before discussing other issues.

Saudi Arabia on U.S. Role -- Commenting on the U.S. role in the Lebanon negotiations, Riyadh radio said the U.S. realization that Israel is attempting to weaken the American role in the talks constitutes a "turning point whose consequences should not be underestimated." Philip Habib's return to the Middle East with firmer proposals aimed at forcing Israel to withdraw from Lebanon follows President Reagan's "fury" over Israel's continuing occupation of Lebanon, the radio said.

Syria

A large Soviet military delegation has been holding secret talks with Syrian military officials in Damascus, the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT reported.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iran launched the second phase of its offensive in the Maysan region on 10 February and annihilated the 12th Regiment of Iraq's 3d Army, according to Tehran radio.

Subsequently, Iraqi units counterattacked and more than 1,000 Iranians surrendered, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio claimed.

Iraqi naval forces and aircraft destroyed three Iranian "naval targets" at the entrance of the Khowr-e Musa Strait, an earlier Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio asserted. Meanwhile, Iranian forces killed or wounded 100 Iraqi troops and Iranian fighter planes shot down 4 Iraqi aircraft, according to IRNA and an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio. Later, an Iraqi military spokesman denied that any Iraqi planes had been shot down, INA reported.

In another development, Arab League Secretary General Heddi Klibi cabled Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and expressed confidence in Iraq's ability to repulse the Iranian aggression, INA noted. Klibi stressed that Iraq's security is part of the security of all Arab states which will not fail in their obligation to support Iraq with all their resources, INA added.

Commenting on the Iranian offensive, Riyadh radio said Iran's aggression against Iraq is another in the series of crimes perpetrated by Tehran's leaders since assuming power and that popular discontent has increased because of these attitudes.

Egyptian Diplomacy

Following a short visit to Jordan, Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs and Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary arrived in Iraq, INA reported. The two officials met with Iraq's President Husayn and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz and conveyed a message from President Husni Mubarak which emphasized Egypt's solidarity with Iraq in its battle against Iranian aggression, INA noted. An Egyptian spokesman described the Baghdad talks as positive and fruitful, adding that both sides agreed to further intensify bilateral cooperation, according to MENA.

Ghali and Al-Baz are expected to visit Lebanon and will give a letter to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil from President Mubarak on the results of his recent tour and talks on the Lebanese situation, Beirut radio reported.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and Defense Minister Prince Sultan, according to SPA and Riyadh radio reports. In another development, the PLO has invited 60 Arab and international figures, including members of Egyptian political parties, to attend the 14 February PNC session, QNA noted citing PLO sources.

Afghanistan

Defense Minister Major General Abdol Qader left Moscow at the conclusion of his visit to the Soviet Union, TASS reported.

DAILY REPORT

South Asia

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POLITBURO MEMBER NAJIBOLLAH ADDRESSES PASHTUN

LD080612 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0431 GMT 7 Feb 83

["Message to the Pashto Peoples and Tribes Read Out at the DRA Radio-Television by Dr. Najibollah, Member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and President of the State Information Services" -- BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] [No dateline as received] In the name of God, the most merciful and benign.

Brothers and nears and dears, permit me first of all to thank on behalf of Comrade Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA CC and president of the revolution [words indistinct] of the DRA and the Central Committee of the PDPA, all of you who have listened to the words of the leaders of our party and state which in the past months have been beamed to you through broadcasts and messages for the prosperity, progress and welcome of the people and the ensuring of peace in your glorious and historical country on the basis of brotherly jirgah [tribal assembly] in conformity with your sacred beliefs and favoured customs. You should not only be thanked but respected and reassured since you have paid attention, considered the messages and the declarations of the party, state and our leaders, have acted in accordance with those and are ready again to act in the same way and have informed us and all other compatriots of your goodwill. We must especially express our deep gratitude to those elders, spiritual leaders and young people who responding to our sincerity and truthfulness have established a contact with us through correspondence and verbal message whether they have come here or are living abroad and working for the prosperity and happiness of the country and the compatriots.

It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction that our brothers wherever they may be reflect deeply on our declarations or message in a spirit of goodwill and faith and have begun jirgahs, consultations and talks. All of our brothers who are in Afghanistan or are living abroad in camps or tents or in foreign cities including even those who have been placed in battle positions or are employed by the enemy are now coming to think that if the revolutionary Government of Afghanistan wants to hold jirgah, why one should avoid participation in such jirgah and why one would proceed along the path of destruction of the country and one's own future and why one should bring ignominy to oneself.

Likewise, the tribal brothers living in the mountainous valleys where jirgahs and mutual consultation constitute an important aspect of life have shown positive reaction to this declaration or decision of ours and seem ready to give any sacrifices in this regard. Even the elders and religious scholars living in the districts have also paid serious heed to this issue. All these are promising prospects for us [word indistinct] in it lies because of prosperity and happiness of our country and countrymen and peace, progress of the region.

Esteemed brothers and kith and kin, there is no doubt that we and you face great trial. We and you have undergone and are undergoing many a loss, toil and injury. Our brothers, sister, daughters, sons, mothers and fathers have been martyred and are being martyred. Besides a number of people are living a life of exile in misery in tents far from their homes and hearths, honour, beliefs, brotherhood and far from their village, town and fields. They are thinking day and night about their country. Yet, in this test when we talked about brotherhood and jirgah, they listen to our voice and in heart and mind of everyone of them there is a positive response and the positive and valuable results of this process are becoming ever more obvious.

This in itself is such a glorious spirit and a custom of our nation and people that however great a pride we may take in it it would still be less. We can say with confidence that God willing we shall emerge victorious from this ordeal. All of our elders, brothers and sisters will return with honour and dignity to the folds of their family and the country and come together for leading an honorable happy and proud life in their ancestral land forming a single country, a single nation and a united people. They will convert as they have done in the course of their prideful history their inner wounds and injuries and the worries of today into a blossoming flower for the sake of a brighter future.

God willing that day is not far off because on the one hand the cherished spirit and custom of jirgah and consultation have revived amongst the chivalrous and patriotic Muslim people of our nation and on the other hand, our party and government are deeply convinced that this constitutes the most adequate part for ensuring prosperity, happiness and peace and are proceeding along that. That is why I say that henceforth no satanic hand can pollute our house and our brothers.

Patriotic Muslims, friends and brothers, I once again assure all of you in all responsibility and with authority on behalf of our party and government that we have stood by firmly in the past, stand by today and will stand in future by whatever has been said in this regard by Comrade Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC, by the party, the National Fatherland front and the government. All declarations, messages and statements which we have addressed to you in this regard originate from the conscious decision of our party and the revolutionary state and will remain as the document of the glittering history of the nation. We will abide by these to the letter and will endeavour to the utmost to put them in practice.

God willing, Almighty will make us come out with pride before the nation and the history. Likewise, in addition to whatever we have said so far we also say to you, elders and seniors of the nation, brothers and sisters whatever you may be and whoever you may be, who as we have come to know are ready for talks with us for the prosperity of your country in conformity with our beliefs, customs and national history that we pay greater respect and esteem than expected by you to your attention, will and readiness. Should we act otherwise we will be dishonoured before our conscience, belief, history and yourselves. Then come, let us embark on this path, a path of glories and precedents of our national history, a path of our present day peace and prosperity and of progress and happiness of future. Let us embark on this path with goodwill, courage boldness and Afghan chivalry and make our country prosperous. The way we foiled three times in the past the extensive colonial plans of the greatest colonial power, that is, Britain, in the same way let us foil today this plan of world notorious imperialism and their agents who want to make us fight against each other and to destroy our country and brothers and thus we must earn a new honour in the world for our future.

Dear brothers and sisters, we have both information which are not secret as also information through secret means indicating to us that a number of intellectual figures, political seniors, national and tribal elders, patriotic clergymen and youth are endeavouring in this direction. A number of our brothers who have left their homes and hearths also have the same inclinations and are making the same endeavours. They are in direct or indirect contact with us. We appreciate the efforts and will of all these peoples and assure them every kind of help and assistance.

In this respect we make it explicitly clear that if anyone wants to hold talks through jirgah according to the customs, tradition, and national history, it must be clear for every individual of this nation that the first condition of jirgah is that it cannot be held when firing and shooting goes on. That is to say, first firing and shooting is stopped and then jirgahs held and talks take place. Thus, everyone who today wants to hold jirgah and hold talks should first accept this condition. First firing and fighting must be stopped and security ensured and guaranteed and then the talks will take place.

We have accepted and will accept this condition. We ask everyone who desires the establishment of goodwill and amity between brothers to come forward, stop shooting, ensure peace so that at that time we could sit together like brothers, think a way for making the country prosperous, pray jointly in the name of God Almighty for the blossoming of this ancient land in a new environment and a new world and girdle up our loins for this cause. This is the why of Islam, peace and goodwill. This is the path of tradition and the favoured custom of our nation. Let us forge ahead on this path.

This is also not a secret to anybody that these handful of miscreants and bandits are unmasked. The Afghan refugees, too, have realized the true nature of their acts and wherever these bandits have gone the people of those places, too, have come to realize the real nature of their actions and now know that they are not what they portray themselves to be. All people have now seen with their own eyes what their American and imperialist Islam is and how in the name of jihad (crusade) they carry out banditry, plunder and tyranny and aggression. Today everyone says that one jihad was that very jihad which the Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) waged in the way of God, fastening a stone to his stomach during the jihad, and one jihad is that of miscreants and bandits who, on the one hand, have filled their pockets with money in the name of refugees and on the other hand have added to the deposits of the Western banks. They consider martyrdom a good thing -- but for whom? For those Muslim and poor Afghans whom someone who himself is not interested in fighting jihad but likes to live a life of luxury in golden palaces gives weapons and Western currency and sends for fratricide and destruction of his own ancestral land.

There is a Pashto proverb which says that when moon shines everyone can see that you do and see as to what are the living standards of the leaders of bandits and in what misery, poverty, toil and humiliation and myriad of other problems the rest of the refugees are living. There, accursed people who have earned notoriety for themselves are now out to defame the Afghan and Islamic glories and sacred ideals. The companions of the prophet waged a jihad in line with the sayings and traditions of the prophet. When some companion was in a near death stage and some other companion thirsty, the dying companion would give water to the thirsty one and would himself be martyred. This is Islam. This is jihad. This is not jihad when in the name of refugees a handful of people pocket all kind of aid and assistance and the refugees themselves be fed only the myth of "jihad" and false propaganda.

The concern of the refugee brothers lies in that the leaders of the bandits pit them against the local people and involve them in local politics. This action is so hazardous that only the avowed enemies of Afghanistan, Islam and this region can be happy with this and benefit from this. All others suffer due to this. If this practice of bandits continues, the consequences to follow are obvious.

These bandits will soon take refuge in Western countries with their masters but they will involve the patriotic refugees in such a conflict that they would find it difficult to get out of it.

One consequence of the actions of the bandits is that all Pashto tribes have decided that the camps of bandits be removed from the land of the free tribes. Already such jirgahs have begun among the tribes and they will not allow on their soil anyone to bring weapons, create threats or carry out plunder.

All these facts are known to our refugee and displaced brothers. That is why many of these brothers are returning towards their country. But the bandits would not permit their return.

A large number of the armed groups came and surrendered their arms. Others, too, are coming and joining with us. A great number of armed groups are in touch with us and a great number are fighting against the predatory bands.

God willing, this positive change is proceeding ahead. That is to say, we have kept open our arms in fraternity. We invite our brothers. We would talk with them, hold jirgahs with them. We are ready to console our aggrieved brother, dress the wounds of the wounded brother and wiping the tears of our displaced mothers and sisters. We are proceeding ahead in this direction because we want to free them from the clutches of the miscreants and imperialism, from which they themselves want to free themselves. Otherwise the revolutionary state is fully prepared and determined to do away with all miscreants. If they do not understand or do not correct themselves all the people of the world and our refugee compatriots and friends would see that they would be corrected in such a way that it will be a lesson for all those who engage in any mischief in the world. Yes, sir, the "contorted face needs a fist to be set right."

Esteemed friends, I must talk frankly here about another problem. And the one whom I am addressing must pay deep attention to it. In the history of nation and nationalities especially in conditions of revolution, many things are not set repeat. [as received] These are said only once. If someone wants to change himself, it is well and good and he will benefit from it. If someone has not been endowed with wisdom by God and does not pay heed he will suffer for the misdeed of his foolishness. All the people of the world know and even the imperialists know it that those Afghan people who have been displaced from their country are not miscreants and have not taken up arms against their country, history, honour and belief. Neither are they plundering with the money, weapons and the guidance of the historical and class enemies of Afghanistan and the abetment of mentors and agents of these enemies, their own houses, and brothers or destroying the mosques or committing highway robbery or murder of their own fathers, brothers and sons. All these acts are being done by a handful of miscreants. They, too, are doing these acts for their personal benefits or for serving and being loyal to their old and new masters. It must be said to the miscreants that you who have become so stained and polluted and cannot free yourself from the clutches of your American, Chinese and other masters, must then not mete out such tyranny and injustice on your country, honour and motherland and on your own future and the future of the nation and the future generation for getting some temporary benefit and appeasing your colonial masters in this respect. We say to those brothers who are abroad or in the country: These miscreants are making you an object of the deals and trailing. You have seen all the misdeeds of these miscreants and recognized them very well.

Therefore, brothers, you must also tell them that they should stop mischief and revel and find some other pretexts for fulfilling their desires through their masters but in any case stop damaging this joint country and nation. If they listen to you it would be good. Otherwise you should quit them and place them at the disposal of the historical popular and decisive force of the revolution.

In that case, whatever they do you will not be blamed for that, let them relegate themselves to the dust of history where they themselves want to go.

Dear illustrious brother, can we not take a lesson from what has happened and what is happening. Can the developments which are taking place in the world and around us not open our eyes? We are convinced that we and you all have taken a lesson from all these. And these conditions and circumstances have opened the eyes of every individual of our nation. Especially all those brothers, people and masses who have been deceived and become displaced do not want to see or tolerate this situation. The falsity is now clear to them. They can also see the ultimate result of the actions of the historical enemies of ours who are dragging this country and nation towards destruction.

That is why they want to forestall such development. In this respect greater responsibility lies with those intellectuals, spiritualists, elders, and political personalities who know all these problems but do not want to realise. We say to these brothers that in this issue in which lies the good of the country and nation, the good of yourselves and your children is also implied this country and this nation does not belong only to us or only to you. This is ours and yours, common property. Therefore, let all of us desire the good of the nation because in it lies the good of all of us. Keep in mind that if the condition becomes very critical and there is an unrest and the enemies, the agents and selfish people have beclouded the surroundings, still it is not too late and the opportunity is still there. Where is a will there is a way. If someone has goodwill or illwill a way out still can be found. The caravan of nation is proceeding ahead towards revolutionary national and religious goals and the destination is reachable. Therefore, let us ignore the trivial differences and the problems of the past. The difference of opinion does not appear in one day and cannot be resolved in one day.

Let us forget all this and desire the good of all tribes and people of Afghanistan. Everyone who does not desire the good of the nation and is working for the destruction of the nation's interest and future in order to fulfill his and his master's ominous objectives, such a person cannot henceforth hide themselves or be safe. If someone is a person who hides himself in the house of his masters he can never appear before his own people. He will be ashamed before his own children and branded with ignominy before the glittering future history of Afghanistan.

May God not make us feel ashamed before the people, or the history in future of our nation.

Let us embark on the path of good, peace and prosperity. God will give us His blessings in plenty should be made a little move in this direction.

"Very those who endeavour in our path we guide them." (from holy Koran)

JOWZJAN PROVINCE PARTY OFFICIAL 'MARTYRED'

LD081601 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Text] With great sorrow, we report that Comrade ('Abdorrazaq Sayyed), secretary of the provincial party committee of Jowzjan Province, was martyred yesterday while performing his duties. The PDPA Central Committee expresses its great sorrow at this great loss and offers deep condolences to the relatives of the martyred comrade.

PRIME MINISTER GANDHI BEGINS 3-DAY ASSAM VISIT

BK100900 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Text] Mrs Gandhi arrived in Dhubri in Gowalpara District of Assam this morning on a 3-day tour of Assam and Meghalaya. She was received by the state governor, his advisers, and high civil and police officials. Mrs Gandhi will also visit Kamrup, Nowgong, and Karbi Anglong Districts today.

Official sources in Gauhati say that no major untoward incident has so far been reported from any part of the state today.

'VIOLENT' INCIDENTS REPORTED FROM ASSAM

Deaths Total 9

BK091321 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] According to official sources in Gauhati two more persons injured in yesterday's bomb explosion in Lanka Bazar in Nowgong District [words indistinct] has succumbed to their injuries. With this, the total number of persons who died in yesterday's incidents and firing have gone up to nine -- six of them were killed in police firing at Belsor in Kamrup District, (Nonnoi) in Nowgong District, and (Chalusarai) in Shibsagar District. The police also opened fire yesterday to disperse violent crowds in (Haji) and (Agiyaturi) in Kamrup District.

Official sources say reports of arson have also come from some places in Darrang and Dibrugarh Districts today.

Crowd Attacks Police

BK091601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] In Assam, two persons were killed when police opened fire to disperse a violent crowd which attacked a police party at Chasmachatra in Kamrup District. The police party was proceeding from (Nurbari) to (Kamarkuchi) village to provide reinforcement.

Reports of mob attacks on police parties have also come in from two places in Kamrup District.

According to reports received in Gauhati electioneering by political parties is going on in different parts of the state.

Police Fire at Crowd

BK100316 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Text] One more police firing at village (Barisat) in Kamrup District yesterday has been reported from Assam. Official sources in Guahati said police resorted to firing to disperse a crowd which surrounded and attacked a police party taking the bodies of those killed in firing at Chasmachatra. One person died in the firing.

Two bomb explosions were reported in Gauhati last night. In one incident, the railway track near (Kamakhya gate) was damaged. According to official sources, the track has been repaired.

One woman is said to have died in a village near Namrup in Dibrugarh District yesterday when some miscreants attacked her house.

INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS ON ALKALI DEMANDS HELD

BK081652 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] The central team of ministers had another round of informal discussions with the chief ministers of Rajasthan and Haryana on interstate matters pertaining to Akali demands. The meetings were held separately and opposition leaders in both states were also present during the talks.

Briefing newsmen later, the home minister, P.C. Sethi, said some suggestions have been put across to the chief ministers for their consideration. They have been requested to narrow down the gap in order to facilitate an amicable solution to the problem. Mr Sethi said depending on the outcome at the resumed tripartite talks tomorrow, the central leaders might again consult the chief ministers. Besides the home minister, the central ministers who attended the talks today were the ministers for defense, external affairs, parliamentary affairs, and supplies. The principal secretary to the prime minister and the Cabinet secretary were also present.

The meeting with the chief minister of Rajasthan, S.C. Mathur, lasted 45 minutes. The leader of the opposition in the Rajasthan assembly, Mr Bhairon Singh Sekhawa, also took part in the meeting. The talks with the Haryana chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, and the opposition leader, Mr Devi Lal, lasted an hour.

TAMIL NADU CHIEF MINISTER PROTESTS RICE ALLOTMENT

BK091445 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] The Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran, began a day's token fast in Madras this morning in protest against what he called the center's attitude toward the state regarding the allotment of rice from the central pool. Our Madras correspondent (Kunandavellu) reports that Mr Ramachandran is undertaking the fast till 1700 this evening.

As reported earlier, the center has described as unfortunate the Tamil Nadu chief minister's decision to go on fast on the issue of allotment of rice to the state. An official press release in New Delhi said that it was only in the last week of last month that the center received a memorandum from the state government on the drought situation there. Besides, the state gave the understanding that the visit of a central team to Tamil Nadu to assess the drought situation may not take place till the third week of this month.

The official release further said that the center made every effort to distribute foodgrains to the states on an equitable basis. The food stocks with the center can be built only with grains procured from producing states. Most states have handed over to Food Corporation of India the grains they have procured. Unfortunately, the press release says, the Tamil Nadu Government has not extended its full cooperation to the center. It had clearly indicated that so far as kharif [fall crop] procurement is concerned, it will be on state account and it will not contribute to the central pool. The press release said that Tamil Nadu's rice procurement effort has been better than last year despite reports of drought. The steep increase in off-take was caused by injudicious management of rice stocks by the state government, the release said.

The Tamil Nadu assembly was abruptly adjourned today following unprecedented pandemonium for about 2 hours in the house. The trouble started when some members of the Congress-I and the Dravida Munetra Kazhagam [DMK] protested against a ruling party member who showed an objectionable material during the course of discussion on the adjournment motion on the chief minister's token fast. The Congress-I and the DMK members refused to accept the speaker's ruling that the matter will be referred to the privileges committee. They demanded suspension of the concerned member. As shouts and counter-shouts continued, the speaker adjourned the house for the day.

MAURITIAN PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES ON 6-DAY VISIT

BK080329 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 8 Feb 83

[Excerpts] The Mauritius prime minister, Mr Aneerood Jugnauth, arrived in New Delhi this morning to a ceremonial welcome. He was received at the airport by the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, and the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao.

The Mauritius prime minister is accompanied by his wife on his 6-day official visit.

Gandhi, Jugnauth Remarks

BK090430 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] India and Mauritius have called for a policy of active nonalignment and redoubling of efforts for good will among nations. Speaking at a dinner hosted in honor of the visiting Mauritius prime minister, Mr Aneerood Jugnauth, in New Delhi last night, the prime minister, Mr Gandhi, said that the coming nonaligned summit should ensure cohesion and unity of the movement. This will enable them to progress rapidly toward their objective and achieve a more egalitarian and just world community.

Mr Jugnauth in his reply said that his country shares India's view that nonalignment should not be confused with indifference to world problems nor as striking the right balance between the superpowers.

Both prime ministers expressed their grave concern at the increasing militarization of the Indian Ocean and conversion of Diego Garcia into a military base. Mrs Gandhi said that the setting up of military bases in the ocean and deployment of naval fleets carrying nuclear weapons pose incalculable danger to our security and tranquillity. Mr Jugnauth said the presence of military powers in the Indian Ocean is contrary to the wishes of the littoral states of the region.

About bilateral relations Mrs Gandhi assured the people of Mauritius that India will be with them in all their endeavors. The Mauritius prime minister said that his government and people desire to cement the ties between the two countries. Referring to Mrs Gandhi's visit to Mauritius soon after he became prime minister, Mr Jugnauth said it had a tremendous and welcome impact in his country. It provided a golden opportunity for amity, cooperation, and dialogue in all fields of common concern, he said.

SECOND PHASE OF WAL FAJR OPERATION LAUNCHED

GF100607 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0532 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, attention please, dear listeners, attention please: According to reports received from the Katam ol-Anbiya camp, the center for the combined operations of the Iranian army and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, last night the brave Islamic warriors in the southern region of the Wal Fajr operation, with God's mercy and following the primary operation of the first phase of the offensive, launched another phase of the offensive with the aim of destroying the Zionist-Bathist enemy forces and equipment and for the purpose of facilitating the continuation of the brave operation. In this operation, while inflicting heavy casualties, the 12th Regiment of the 3d Army of Zionist-Bathist Iraq was annihilated and the enemy's military operational preparation was considerably destroyed.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,212

LD091808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Communique No 1,212 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The situation on the fronts of the imposed war is hereby brought to the attention of beloved compatriots:

The heroes and epic-makers of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran today added the term epic to the Wal Fajr operational front. At 1523, 1524, 1659, and 1730, four intruding aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Armed Forces were shot down by their swift fighter planes and their air defense units.

On the Wal Fajr operational fronts, the strong combatants of Islam yesterday continued to consolidate the new defensive positions and zones. Exchanges of intense fire were continuing between our forces and the enemy.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the combatants of the Gendarmerie and the other combatants of Islam opened fire on enemy positions and fortifications across the Arvand Rud; halted the movements of the Saddamist forces; silenced their fire; destroyed three heavy machinegun emplacements, three observation posts, and several heavy weapon trenches of the Iraqi forces; and killed a number of their servicemen.

During the past 24 hours, the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr came under the intermittent artillery and heavy weapons fire of the Saddamist criminals. As a result, six houses and shops were destroyed in Abadan and several of our beloved compatriots were martyred or wounded.

Yesterday, battles and exchanges of fire continued sporadically on most of the country's western fronts. They were most intense on the Qasr-e Shirin, Sumar, Salehabad fronts where the combatants of Islam inflicted the most significant losses and casualties on the mercenary Ba'thist Iraqi forces. As a result of the heavy artillery fire of the combatants of Islam, about 45 heavy and light weapon trenches, 1 ammunition dump, 1 troop carrier, and 1 antiaircraft gun of the enemy were destroyed and a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded.

In the Marivan region, the Saddamists' positions in Tawil came under the fire of the victorious combatants of Islam; one heavy machinegun and three slit trenches and foxholes were destroyed and a number of their personnel were killed.

On the Dehloran front, the heroes of the Gendarmerie returned fire on enemy positions, destroyed several trenches, and killed or wounded a number of servicemen.

During the past 24 hours, air attacks by intruding aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Armed Forces on the western and southern border cities were foiled by the heroes of the Air Force, who are ready to give their lives; and by the air defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

OVER 100 IRAQIS KILLED, WOUNDED AT WESTERN FRONTS

LD092113 Tehran IRNA in English 1948 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] Bakhtaran, Feb. 9 IRNA -- More than 100 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded by the heavy artillery fire of the Islamic defenders in the western fronts over the past 24 hours.

Also, 45 enemy group bunkers and dugouts, one munitions depot, one anti-aircraft artillery piece, one personnel carrying vehicle and some concentration places of the aggressors were destroyed during the said operations.

Meanwhile, heavy weapons fire persisted between the two sides with the Iranian forces holding the upper hand in the Bakhtaran fronts of Nowsud, Azhab, Chogha-Hammam, Tankab, Naftshahr and Sumar during the same period.

SUCCESSFUL OPERATION NORTHWEST OF AHVAZ CITED

LD092058 Tehran IRNA in English 1940 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] Karbala' Hdqs. Feb 9 IRNA -- Observers have said that the destruction and penetration of Iraqis heavily strengthened fortifications by Islamic combatants was indeed a great feat in the Wal Fajr operation.

Corresponding to such a statement is the supremacy of faith over arms, as exhibited by the Islamic forces.

The Zionist Ba'thist forces of Saddam erected their strongest military fortifications along the border lines of (Chazzabeh)-Faqlh, two points northwest of Ahvaz, more than 35 km apart.

Iraqi forces had been assured by Western military experts who helped Iraq erect the fortifications of their invincibility. They further suffered delusions that the Iranian forces would never overcome such obstacles and traverse to areas beyond. The Ba'thist aggressors are now wrecked by fear because of their inability to cross canals dug by themselves and recapture these fortified positions.

Varied and extensive measures were taken by the Iraqi aggressors to prevent such an attack by the Islamic forces in the Wal Fajr operations. They resorted to digging ten rows of canals with widths of three to 8 meters and depth of 3 to 4 meters, while placing barbed wire along the canals. Also an extensive mine-field was created about the area containing a variety of mines, flares and electric and explosive traps. The mine-field at times extended a length of one thousand meters, while 220 liter barrels containing incendiary materials and powdered tires with incendiary materials were placed around the mine-field.

The triggering of an explosion could have resulted in a vast area being engulfed in flames for hours.

In addition to these, group bunkers with automatic guns of various calibers, as well as canals for the passage of Iraqi forces were created there.

In spite of these extensive obstacles the Islamic forces succeeded in ploughing right through them. Undoubtedly such a spirit as this has sustained and continues to advance the revolution. It is also such a spirit that will enable the forces of Islam to reach Karbala. These sophisticated obstacles were overcome only hours after the start of the Operation Wal Fajr, enabling the Islamic forces of Iran to launch a fierce attack against the enemy's positions.

RED ALERT CONDITION ANNOUNCED FOR AHVAZ

GF100650 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 0638 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Attention, attention: This is Ahvaz, voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Dear listeners, according to a report just received, a red alert condition has been declared for Ahvaz region. Please make sure that you comply with all the safety regulations for this condition. An air raid is imminent. [sound of siren]

VELAYATI DESCRIBES VISITS TO DPRK, SRI LANKA

LD091933 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Text] Mr Velayati, our country's minister of foreign affairs, has returned to Tehran after a visit to North Korea and Sri Lanka. In an interview given to our correspondent, Mr Velayati described his visit to those two countries:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. My humble visit to the two countries of North Korea and Sri Lanka took place as a result of a standing invitation from the foreign ministers of those two countries. From the beginning of our Islamic Revolution, those two countries have supported the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Immediately after the Islamic Revolution, the Sri Lankan foreign minister came to Tehran and invited the Islamic Republic of Iran to join the Nonaligned Movement. Subsequently, we have carried out a great many coordinated efforts with the nonaligned countries. In connection with the change of venue of the nonaligned conference from Baghdad to Delhi, North Korea was among the countries that greatly cooperated with us. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

KHAMENE'I: WE ARE NOT AFRAID OF GLOBAL POWERS

LD092203 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 9 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Foreign guests attending the 10-day dawn ceremonies last night met with President Seyyed 'li Khamene'i. Minister of Islamic Guidance Khatami was also present at this meeting.

During the meeting, the president made a speech about the foreign propaganda against the young Islamic Republic of Iran, saying it is preventing the real message of his republic from reaching the people of the world. He expressed the hope that the foreign guests will witness the real situation in Iran and realize the facts.

The president added that our message and that of our revolution to all the nations and governments in favor of development and decisionmaking on the basis of the interests of their nations is that they should sever their dependence on the major powers.

The president went on to say that today we have the independence to show the world that we will strongly confront and resist any power intending to dominate us politically, and we are not afraid of the strength of these global powers.

Khamene'i also said that the arrogant world powers and hegemonists are all the same to us. However, the United States, because of the untold harm and blows that it inflicted on us before and after the revolution, is the enemy facing us and is nearer to us. [as heard]

AYATOLLAH MONTAZERI EXTOLS AIR FORCE ROLE

LD051334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1038 GMT 5 Feb 83

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the commander of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and more than 500 Air Force officers, NCO's, and personnel, together with the force's political-ideological supervisor, met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom yesterday.

In a speech during the meeting, referring to the days before the victory of the revolution and the Air Force personnel's joining the ranks of the rising, revolutionary Iranian nation and the worthy role played by the said personnel in that connection, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: One of the important characteristics of our Islamic Revolution is that it is neither Eastern nor Western. Since this revolution leans on the Muslim people inspired by the decisive Islamic teachings and guidelines and the leadership of his holiness Imam Khomeyni, may his lofty shadow be extended, it relies on no power or force except Islam. This is different from ordinary world revolution. Other revolutions, usually after liberation from the clutches of a superpower, since they do not possess a powerful popular foundation, lean on another superpower and subsequently become attracted to it. However, the Islamic Revolution of the Iranian nation, in all its phases and dimensions, has leaned and will lean on the people themselves. The real secret of the plot hatched by the superpowers in connection with imposing the Iraqi war on this great nation and the instigation and mobilization of the minigroups aimed at weakening and destroying the revolution is concealed in this very fact. Western and Eastern colonialists see the victory of the Islamic Revolution in this country as a serious danger to their interests.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri then referred to the active and remarkable role played by the personnel of the Air Force in the war imposed by the corrupt Iraqi regime on the Muslim nation of Iran and expressed appreciation for their intrepid acts and self-sacrifice. He emphasized: The Air Force quite rightly has played and plays a worthy role in repulsing the aggression launched by the aggressive Iraqi regime. Our nation will never forget the men of the Air Force and I am confident that the dear martyrs and the combatant and zealous youths serving in this dear force will be recompensed and held dear in the presence of God Almighty.

According to the same report, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi-Gilani, Mohammadi-Reyshahri, and (Fazel Harandi) also met separately with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom yesterday and discussed various issues with him.

IRAQI COUNCIL SPOKESMAN ADDRESSES IRAQI PEOPLE

GF071910 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] In concurrence with the heroic attacks launched by the victorious Islamic forces against the collapsing Iraqi Army in the Wal Fajr operations, Hojjat ol-Eslam Muhammad Bakr al-Hakim, spokesman for the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, addressed a call from the Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, calling on the Iraqi Muslim people to follow the leadership of Imam Khomeyni [words indistinct] and revolution against Saddam's regime.

He also called on the Iraqi Army, soldiers, and officers to revolt against the tyranny of Baghdad and to join the Islamic forces.

In a press conference held at the Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, Muhammad Bakr al-Hakim stressed that the Iranian forces are liberation forces that aim at liberating the Iraqi people. He also stressed that Imam Khomeyni is not only the imam and leader of the Iranian people but the imam of the whole Islamic nation who has patronized the Iraqi, Iranian, and all oppressed people in the world. This is why he issued his instructions to the Islamic forces not to bomb Iraqi towns at a time when those forces could very easily have done so.

Hojjat ol-Elsam Muhammad al-Hakim addressed the Iraqi soldiers: Saddam does not intend to unite your efforts against Israel. The chance has come for you to foil Saddam's Zionist plan. The Iraqi people should bear their immense responsibility in these critical circumstances and should make further efforts to strike at Saddam's regime so that in this way they can establish an Islamic Republic in Iraq and continue the way adopted by Martyr Ayatollah as-Sadr.

Al-Hakim noted his visit to the battlefronts and lauded the high morale of the Muslim fighters; he said the forces of the Koran are preparing to liberate Islamic territories.

Referring to the Wal Fajr operations, the spokesman of the Supreme Council said: The news of victories are reaching us and the reports say the Islamic forces have gained their planned objective in the first minutes of the operation. He said: I should note here that a great number of Muslim Iraqi mujahidin are now fighting next to the Islamic forces in order to topple Saddam.

He added: Saddam's government has had strong relations with international imperialism since it came to power and it used to shout revolutionary slogans to hide its true nature. However, the Islamic Revolution in Iran revealed the truth including the nature of the Saddamist regime. Now we see the cooperation between Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan and the Zionist regime.

Muhammad Bakr al-Hakim referred to one of the reasons that made Saddam give security guarantees to the Zionist entity in return for U.S. weapons: The proofs which we have affirm that the Iraqi people oppose Saddam's regime and we, following the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and based on the people's ambitions to establish an Islamic regime in Iraq, have sacrificed more than 7,000 martyrs and 100,000 prisoners. This is why the Muslim Iraqi strugglers head for the battlefronts to strike at the Saddamist regime. The Iraqi people know very well that the Islamic forces are entering Iraqi territories to liberate them. God willing, our oppressed people in this Muslim country soon will welcome the Islamic forces into Iraqi territories.

CORRECTION TO ANNOUNCEMENT ON NEW OFFENSIVE

The following correction pertains to the item entitled "New Offensive Launched Against Iraqi Forces," published in the 7 February South Asia DAILY REPORT, I 1, second paragraph:

...A detailed report on this victorious action will be conveyed later on to the martyr-nurturing nation. (changing "detail" to "detailed" and "nurtured" to "nurturing.")